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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/752,504	12/27/2000	Guido Maffezzoni	ADAPP141	9483

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EXAMINER

HAILU, TADESSE

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2173

DATE MAILED: 02/01/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/752,504	Applicant(s) MAFFEZZONI, GUIDO	
	Examiner Tadesse Hailu	Art Unit 2173	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 November 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23,35 and 36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23,35 and 36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the AMENDMENT filed on November 15, 2005 for the application number 09/752,504
2. Applicant's amendment to the Specification filed on November 15, 2005 is acknowledged and entered into the File, and as a result the U.S. 112 rejection is removed.
3. The pending claims 1-23, and 35-36 are examined herein as follows:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-3, 8-10, and 12-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Symbios Inc., PCI SCSI Device Management system SDMS 4.0, User's Guide Version 7.0, 1998.

Symbios discloses PCI SCSI Device Management System. Specifically, the claimed subject matter of the current application is described and illustrated in chapter 5 (Device Drivers for Windows NT 3.5x/4.x).

With regard to claim 1:

As per "A method for modifying configuration of a host adapter for a computer, the host adapter allowing communication between the computer and a peripheral device connected to the host adapter," (see pages 1-2, and 21).

As per “generating a graphical user interface, the graphical user interface being configured to allow a user to access configuration settings of the host adapter;” (see page 28).

As per “receiving instruction via the graphical user interface, the instructions comprising changes to the configuration settings of the host adapter (see pages 24, 26, 28, 29 and 32).

As per “ saving the changes to a file in a storage location, the changes being saved without being activated;” (page 34).

As per “rebooting the computer, the rebooting using code having program instructions for: locating the file having the changes (page 34); as per “reading the changes saved to the file in the storage location,” (pages 26); and as per “writing the changes to a nonvolatile memory of the host adapter of the computer, wherein the reading and the writing are performed during the rebooting of the computer;” (pages 24, 26, 27 and 34).

As per “activating the changes for the host adapter during the rebooting of the computer so that the computer uses the changes when communicating with the host adapter” (pages 28-29 and 32).

As per “wherein the graphical user interface provides the user with a look and feel of system components visible and accessible through the operating system of the computer.” (see pages 1-2, and 6, and 24). Furthermore, since Symbios implements the utility program under Windows NT (i.e., graphical user interface environment), the

user will visualize the configurable system components and access each component through the NT operating system (pages 24, 25 and 32).

With regard to claim 2:

As per "... informing the user that the changes will not be available until the computer is rebooted;" (page 34).

As per "prompting the user to execute a reboot command." (pages 24 and 34).

With regard to claim 3:

As per "...wherein the configuration settings includes what peripheral devices are connected to the host adapter." (pages 32-33).

With regard to claim 8:

As per "... wherein the host adapter is a SCSI host adapter." (pages 28-29).

With regard to claim 9:

As per "... wherein a system BIOS of the computer reads the changes saved to the file in the storage location." (pages 29-30).

With regard to claim 10:

As per "... wherein the storage location is defined in storage associated with one of a hard drive of the computer and a memory chip." (page 32).

With regard to claim 12:

As per "A method for accessing and modifying a configuration of a host adapter for a computer, the host adapter providing communication between the computer and a peripheral device connected to the computer," (see pages 1-2, and 21).

As per "generating a graphical user interface that provides access to the configuration of the host adapter (pages 24, 26 and 32).

As per "accessing and managing the configuration of the host adapter by way of the graphical user interface, the accessing and managing of the configuration including making changes to the configuration;" (pages 24, 26 and 32).

As per "receiving instructions to modify the configuration via the graphical user interface, the instructions comprising changes to the configuration (see pages 24, 26, 28, 29 and 32).

As per "saving the changes to a registry key," (pages 13-15, 35 and 38). The claim further recites "the changes being saved without being activated;" Symbios teaches rebooting (see page 34) the computer for configuration changes to take effect.

As per "receiving a command to reboot the computer;" (page 34).

As per "performing a reboot operation when the command to reboot the computer is received;" (pages 27 and 34).

As per "reading the changes saved to the registry key during the reboot operation;" (pages 13-15, 28-29, and 32).

As per "writing the changes to a nonvolatile memory of the host adapter of the computer during the reboot operation;" (pages 24, 26, 27 and 34)

As per "wherein the graphical user interface provides the user with a look and feel of system components visible and accessible through the operating system." (see pages 1-2, and 6, and 24). Furthermore, since Symbois implements the utility program under Windows NT (i.e., graphical user interface environment), the user will visualize

the configurable system components and access each component through the NT operating system (pages 24, 25 and 32).

With regard to claim 13:

As per "... wherein the reboot operation includes shutting down all applications and all system devices." (pages 24, and 34).

With regard to claim 14:

As per "... wherein the reading of the changes is carried out by a device driver at Ring 0 after the shutting down of all the applications." (pages 24, and 34).

With regard to claim 15:

As per "... wherein the writing of the changes to the nonvolatile memory of the host adapter of the computer is by the device driver at Ring 0 after the reading of the changes." (pages 15-17, 31-32, and 24-28).

With regard to claim 16:

As per "... wherein the reboot operation includes shutting down of an operating system after the writing of the changes to the nonvolatile memory of the host adapter and then an executing of a boot sequence of a system BIOS." (pages 15-17, 31-32, and 24-28).

With regard to claim 17:

As per "... reading the configuration of the host adapter with the configuration changes by the system BIOS during the boot sequence;" (pages 15-17, 31-32 and 24-28).

As per "initializing the computer and the host adapter in accordance with the configuration of the host adapter with the changes." (pages 15-17, 31-32 and 24-28).

With regard to claim 18:

As per "... wherein the host adapter is a SCSI host adapter." (page 32).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a), which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections, set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 4-7, 19, 35 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Symbios Inc., PCI SCSI Device Management system SDMS 4.0, User's Guide Version 7.0 in view of Sun™ StorEdge™ A5000 Installation Guide, for Windows NT Server 4.0

Symbios describes menu or selectable lists of representation of host adapters in a GUI, but Symbios does not illustrate or describe an icon representation of a host adapter (a host adapter icon) as specified in **claim 4**. Also, while Symbios discloses providing access to the host adapter and peripheral devices attached to the host adapter (pages 26-34), but Symbios does not expressly illustrate or describe receiving a selection of the host adapter icon for accessing the host adapter as specified in **claim 5**. Furthermore, while Symbios describes list or menu for accessing the diagnostic tools for managing the configuration of the host adapter (pages 26-34), but, again, Symbios does not expressly describe a host adapter icon to provide access to configuration settings of

the host adapter as specified in **claim 6** and access to diagnostic tools as specified in **claim 7**. Furthermore, Symbios describes "informing the user that the configuration changes will not be available until the reboot operation is complete;" (pages 24 and 34) and "prompting the user to select the command to reboot the computer" (pages 24 and 34); in addition, while Symbios describes generating a menu or selectable list in the graphical user interface (page 28) to provide a user access to the host adapter and any device attached to the adapter, but Symbios does not illustrate or describe the host adapter icon as specified in **claim 19**.

As shown in Symbios, NTCONFIG Utility is a menu driven utility including menu bars, scroll bar manipulated with mouse cursor (chapter 5, pages 32-33). Symbios also discloses device selection menu (chapter 5, page 32), wherein the devices are represented as selectable lists, not icons as claimed in claims 4-7, and 19. However, SunTM StorEdgeTM A5000 Installation Guide, for Windows NT Server 4.0 (Sun) discloses these shortcomings. Sun discloses, among other things, an icon representation of devices (SCSI host adapters) (see Sun pages 4-9), Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use iconic representation in place of list or textual representation because user will perform better by using iconic interaction than textual or selectable list interface.

Symbios in view of Sun further discloses that the selecting of the host adapter icon provides access to the configuration settings of the host adapter as specified in **claim 6** (Symbios, pages 26-34).

Symbios in view of Sun further discloses access to any device connected to the host adapter includes providing for configuration and management of any device connected to the host adapter as specified in claims **35 and 36** (Symbios, pages 26-34).

6. Claims 11, 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Symbios Inc., PCI SCSI Device Management system SDMS 4.0, User's Guide Version 7.0 in view of Admitted Prior Art.

With regard to claim 20:

As per "displaying a graphical user interface, the graphical user interface providing a list of selectable configuration options;" (pages 26-28).

As per "receiving user selections of the configuration options provided by the list;" (pages 26-29).

As per "writing the user selections to a storage location," (pages 26). The claim further includes "the writing being performed without activating the user selection;" Symbios teaching rebooting the computer for a change, such as writing to take effect (pages 24, 26 and 34).

As per "rebooting the computer using code having program instructions for reading the user selections," (pages 24 and 34).

As per "completing the rebooting, the SCSI host adapter being configured to operate in accordance with the user selections;" (pages 24 and 34).

As per "wherein the graphical user interface provides the user with a look and feel of system components visible and accessible through the operating system of the

computer.” (see pages 1-2, 6, and 24). Furthermore, since Symbois implements the utility program under Windows NT (i.e., graphical user interface environment), the user will visualize the configurable system components and access each component through the NT operating system (pages 24, 25 and 32).

Symbois discloses most of the claimed subject matter except for the association of EEPROM with a SCSI host adapter, that is, “writing the user selections to the EEPROM” Symbois instead describes NVRAM associated with SCSI host adapter (pages 26 –28). However, the Admitted prior art describes the association between the EEPROM and SCSI, SCSI host adapters contain EEROM as claimed in the above limitations (Application, page 3 lines 3-14).

The Admitted Prior Art and Symbois are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor, managing device setting.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to replace NVRAM (non-volatile random access), the type of memory used in Symbois with EEPROM (also non-volatile memory, electrically erasable programmable read only memory) of the Admitted prior art. The suggestion /motivation for doing so would have been an obvious functional equivalent. Since both are non-volatile memories that store instructions or configuration settings for the SCSI host adapter, they would perform equally well.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine the Admitted Prior Art with Symbios to obtain the invention as specified in claims 20.

With regard to claim 21:

Symbios in view of Admitted Prior Art discloses that the graphical user interface includes selections to initiate diagnostic testing of the SCSI host adapter.” (Symbios, pages 18-22, 38).

With regard to claim 22:

Symbios in view of Admitted Prior Art discloses that the storage location is defined in storage associated with one of a hard drive of the computer and a memory chip.” (Symbios, pages 26-32).

With regard to claim 11:

Symbios in view of Admitted Prior Art discloses that the system BIOS writes the changes to an EEPROM of the host adapter.” (The Admitted Prior Art, page 3, lines 3-14).

7. Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Symbios in view of Sun as applied to claims 4-7, 19 and 20 above, and further in view of The Admitted Prior Art.

Again Symbios discloses a graphical user interface is displayed following a selection of a SCSI host adapter list or menu (pages 27 and 32), but Symbios does not illustrate or describe the host adapter icon as specified in claim 23. However, as applied to claims 4-7 and 19 above, Symbios in view of Sun describes such host adapter icon (see Sun pages 4-9). Furthermore, Symbios in view of Sun, however, does not show the association of EEPROM with the host adapter as claimed in claim 23, but as given rejection to claim 20, such limitation is describes in the Symbios in view of Admitted Prior Art (Admitted Prior Art, page 3, lines 3-14).

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed 11/15/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues, "The prior art does not disclose, teach or suggest writing configuration changes to non-volatile memory of the host adapter during system reboot." The Examiner strongly disagrees because as recited in section 5, page 24, Symbios discloses a NTCONFIG Utility installed within Windows NT environment. The utility allows a user of a computer system to change selected configuration parameters of Symbios SCSI host adapters. Symbios further discloses the system must be rebooted for the changes to take effect and the changes are stored (or written) into NVRAM (non-volatile random access memory) of the Symbios SCSI host adapter (see page 26). Also page 27 describes saving (writing) data into the NVRAM of the host adapter; and page 34 describes rebooting the system so that the changes made can take effect.

Having fully addressed the applicant's argument the rejection still stands.

CONCLUSION

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

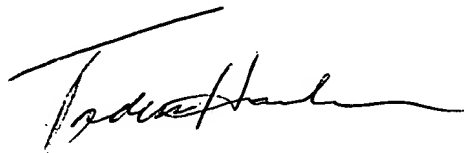
Art Unit: 2173

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Tadesse Hailu, whose telephone number is (571) 272-4051. The Examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 10:30-7:00 ET. If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca, can be reached at (571) 272-4048 Art Unit 2173.

10. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

*Patent examiner
Tadesse Hailu
Art unit 2173
1/27/06*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tadesse Hailu', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.